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WLW
CINCINNATI

FORTUNES WASHED AWAY

1:15
P.M. - E.S.T.

A SERIES OF DRAMATIZATIONS OF BETTER LAND USE.

No. 168

"VALLEY OF THE KAW"

July 12, 1941

ORGAN THEME: DEEP RIVER

VOICE

We took it for granted that land was everlasting;

We said ownership of the land insured security.

Tools would wear out, men would die --

But the land would remain.

ORGAN: HORROR CHORD

ANNOUNCER (cold)

Fortunes Washed Away!

ORGAN: DEEP RIVER

ANNOUNCER

Down through the heart of the Great Plains of Kansas, down through a vast tapestry of ranches and seas of wheat and green oases of corn, down through millet and fruit and vegetables and wooded hills, down past salt mines and oil derricks and small hamlets and villages, flows the Kaw River. Here is a wide, shallow stream, laden with silt washed from thousands of farmlands, a stream that rushes madly in the spring, meanders lazily in the dry heat of summer. The redbud vies with the white plum to dominate the bluffs, the golden cottonwood and the blue-green of new willow adorn the plains along the Kaw River -- and here, in an ever-changing panorama where settlers made the prairie wilderness blossom like a rose, is the scene of the 168th consecutive episode of "Fortunes Washed Away".

MLT-3

Page 1

Page 2

Page 3

Page 4

Page 5

Page 6

Page 7

Page 8

Page 9

Page 10

Page 11

Page 12

Page 13

Page 14

Page 15

Page 16

Page 17

Page 18

ORGAN: UP AND OUT.

ANNOUNCER

In the spring of 1860, the Kaw was a cruel frontier. Tough as the men were, nature had been tougher. Still, there was gayety by the chuck wagon on the ranch of Theodore C. Price, Wheat King of Kansas. It was near Abilene...(FADE)

SOUND: Occasional rattle of pans, howls of coyotes...

PROUTY

Nice ranch you got here, Price.

PRICE

Yep, three thousand acres. Plan to get more.

PROUTY

Good grazing land. Good for cattle.

PRICE

The grass is fine, the water plenty, drinks two for a quarter, and no grangers.

PROUTY (SPITTING DISGUSTEDLY)

Grangers! Them farmers that plow up the land is what's going to ruin this land some day.

PRICE

Yeah, I prefers Indians to grangers any day. Oh, here comes Snuffy at last.

PROUTY

About time. I'm starved.

SNUFFY (FADING IN AND CHANTING)

Here's to Lane County, the home of the free...

The Land of grasshoppers, the chinch-bug and flea;

I'll sing of its praises and tell of its fame

While starving to death on my government claim.

PRICE

You took your time, Snuffy. It isn't often we have important guests like Mr. Prouty.

PROUTY

Oh, now...

SNUFFY

And it isn't often we eats out here on the range, either. Here's the grub.

SOUND: Rattling of pans...

PROUTY

What do we have, by the way, if a guest may ask?

SNUFFY

Corn bread, parched corn, hominy, corn-meal mush.

PROUTY

And tomorrow?

SNUFFY

No mush.

PRICE

Look here, Snuffy....

SNUFFY

Yeah, boss...

PRICE

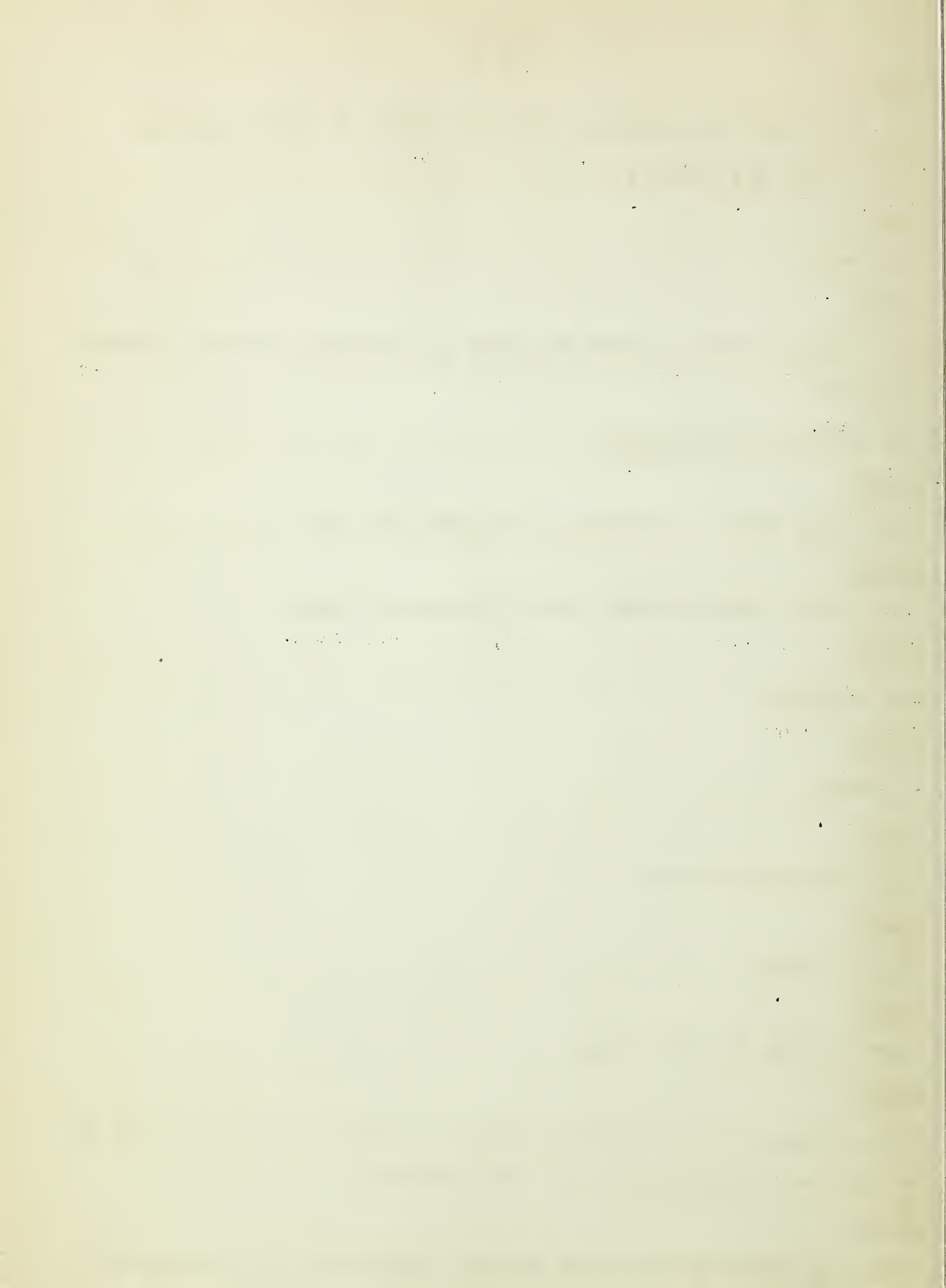
There's dirt in this food.

SNUFFY

Well, boss...a long time ago I heard a doctor man say that all of us must eat a peck of dirt in our lifetime.

PRICE

Yes, I am aware of that fact -- but I don't like to eat mine all at once.



ORGAN: HOME ON THE RANGE

ANNOUNCER

Rough days, those, in the Valley of the Kaw. The trail of the Forty-Niners, the Santa Fe trail, were followed by the iron horse -- railroads! Then...came...the plow -- the plow that broke the plains.

SOUND: Clinking of harness, coming to halt as...

PRICE

You can stop now, Snuffy. I think we can call it a day.

SNUFFY

Yeah, sure I can stop plowing. Then I go to the house and cook dinner and wash dishes. Then I....

PRICE

I think Mrs. Price will have dinner ready. Don't tell me you don't like plowing.

SNUFFY

For a fact, I don't, boss.

PRICE

Afraid of work?

SNUFFY

Afraid of work? No, indeedy. Look at that potato crop. I plant those potatoes. Then I hoe them. Then I pick the bugs off of them, spray them, then hoe them some more. First thing you know I'll have to irrigate them. And I can do that, too -- I'll dig so hard and so fast that the sweat will just run down along my nose and drop on the plants.

PRICE (LAUGHING)

Oh, no, Snuffy, it won't ever be that bad. Kansas will always have plenty of water. I'm going to buy more land -- and plant wheat.

SNUFFY (QUIETLY)

Boss.

PRICE

Yeah, Snuffy.

SNUFFY

You're going to plow up all the sod?

PRICE

That's my plan.

SNUFFY

All of it?

PRICE

All of it. And put in wheat. (SUDDENLY) Snuffy, you are afraid of work.

SNUFFY

No, I'm not, boss. Breaking the sod is mighty tough work -- but I'm afearing it's going to cause a heap of trouble some day. This is cattle land.

PRICE

It was cattle land. But they've passed the Herd Law -- didn't you hear?

SNUFFY

Don't reckon I have.

PRICE

This new law prohibits stock from running at large. Now I won't have to put up fences, and still I can raise all of the wheat I want to.

1990

[illegible]

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... ..

1900

[illegible]

1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24. 25. 26. 27. 28. 29. 30. 31. 32. 33. 34. 35. 36. 37. 38. 39. 40. 41. 42. 43. 44. 45. 46. 47. 48. 49. 50. 51. 52. 53. 54. 55. 56. 57. 58. 59. 60. 61. 62. 63. 64. 65. 66. 67. 68. 69. 70. 71. 72. 73. 74. 75. 76. 77. 78. 79. 80. 81. 82. 83. 84. 85. 86. 87. 88. 89. 90. 91. 92. 93. 94. 95. 96. 97. 98. 99. 100. 101. 102. 103. 104. 105. 106. 107. 108. 109. 110. 111. 112. 113. 114. 115. 116. 117. 118. 119. 120. 121. 122. 123. 124. 125. 126. 127. 128. 129. 130. 131. 132. 133. 134. 135. 136. 137. 138. 139. 140. 141. 142. 143. 144. 145. 146. 147. 148. 149. 150. 151. 152. 153. 154. 155. 156. 157. 158. 159. 160. 161. 162. 163. 164. 165. 166. 167. 168. 169. 170. 171. 172. 173. 174. 175. 176. 177. 178. 179. 180. 181. 182. 183. 184. 185. 186. 187. 188. 189. 190. 191. 192. 193. 194. 195. 196. 197. 198. 199. 200. 201. 202. 203. 204. 205. 206. 207. 208. 209. 210. 211. 212. 213. 214. 215. 216. 217. 218. 219. 220. 221. 222. 223. 224. 225. 226. 227. 228. 229. 230. 231. 232. 233. 234. 235. 236. 237. 238. 239. 240. 241. 242. 243. 244. 245. 246. 247. 248. 249. 250. 251. 252. 253. 254. 255. 256. 257. 258. 259. 260. 261. 262. 263. 264. 265. 266. 267. 268. 269. 270. 271. 272. 273. 274. 275. 276. 277. 278. 279. 280. 281. 282. 283. 284. 285. 286. 287. 288. 289. 290. 291. 292. 293. 294. 295. 296. 297. 298. 299. 300. 301. 302. 303. 304. 305. 306. 307. 308. 309. 310. 311. 312. 313. 314. 315. 316. 317. 318. 319. 320. 321. 322. 323. 324. 325. 326. 327. 328. 329. 330. 331. 332. 333. 334. 335. 336. 337. 338. 339. 340. 341. 342. 343. 344. 345. 346. 347. 348. 349. 350. 351. 352. 353. 354. 355. 356. 357. 358. 359. 360. 361. 362. 363. 364. 365. 366. 367. 368. 369. 370. 371. 372. 373. 374. 375. 376. 377. 378. 379. 380. 381. 382. 383. 384. 385. 386. 387. 388. 389. 390. 391. 392. 393. 394. 395. 396. 397. 398. 399. 400. 401. 402. 403. 404. 405. 406. 407. 408. 409. 410. 411. 412. 413. 414. 415. 416. 417. 418. 419. 420. 421. 422. 423. 424. 425. 426. 427. 428. 429. 430. 431. 432. 433. 434. 435. 436. 437. 438. 439. 440. 441. 442. 443. 444. 445. 446. 447. 448. 449. 450. 451. 452. 453. 454. 455. 456. 457. 458. 459. 460. 461. 462. 463. 464. 465. 466. 467. 468. 469. 470. 471. 472. 473. 474. 475. 476. 477. 478. 479. 480. 481. 482. 483. 484. 485. 486. 487. 488. 489. 490. 491. 492. 493. 494. 495. 496. 497. 498. 499. 500. 501. 502. 503. 504. 505. 506. 507. 508. 509. 510. 511. 512. 513. 514. 515. 516. 517. 518. 519. 520. 521. 522. 523. 524. 525. 526. 527. 528. 529. 530. 531. 532. 533. 534. 535. 536. 537. 538. 539. 540. 541. 542. 543. 544. 545. 546. 547. 548. 549. 550. 551. 552. 553. 554. 555. 556. 557. 558. 559. 560. 561. 562. 563. 564. 565. 566. 567. 568. 569. 570. 571. 572. 573. 574. 575. 576. 577. 578. 579. 580. 581. 582. 583. 584. 585. 586. 587. 588. 589. 590. 591. 592. 593. 594. 595. 596. 597. 598. 599. 600. 601. 602. 603. 604. 605. 606. 607. 608. 609. 610. 611. 612. 613. 614. 615. 616. 617. 618. 619. 620. 621. 622. 623. 624. 625. 626. 627. 628. 629. 630. 631. 632. 633. 634. 635. 636. 637. 638. 639. 640. 641. 642. 643. 644. 645. 646. 647. 648. 649. 650. 651. 652. 653. 654. 655. 656. 657. 658. 659. 660. 661. 662. 663. 664. 665. 666. 667. 668. 669. 670. 671. 672. 673. 674. 675. 676. 677. 678. 679. 680. 681. 682. 683. 684. 685. 686. 687. 688. 689. 690. 691. 692. 693. 694. 695. 696. 697. 698. 699. 700. 701. 702. 703. 704. 705. 706. 707. 708. 709. 710. 711. 712. 713. 714. 715. 716. 717. 718. 719. 720. 721. 722. 723. 724. 725. 726. 727. 728. 729. 730. 731. 732. 733. 734. 735. 736. 737. 738. 739. 740. 741. 742. 743. 744. 745. 746. 747. 748. 749. 750. 751. 752. 753. 754. 755. 756. 757. 758. 759. 760. 761. 762. 763. 764. 765. 766. 767. 768. 769. 770. 771. 772. 773. 774. 775. 776. 777. 778. 779. 780. 781. 782. 783. 784. 785. 786. 787. 788. 789. 790. 791. 792. 793. 794. 795. 796. 797. 798. 799. 800. 801. 802. 803. 804. 805. 806. 807. 808. 809. 810. 811. 812. 813. 814. 815. 816. 817. 818. 819. 820. 821. 822. 823. 824. 825. 826. 827. 828. 829. 830. 831. 832. 833. 834. 835. 836. 837. 838. 839. 840. 84

1933

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100

[Faint handwritten notes]

[illegible]

100

ORGAN: HORROR CHORD

SOUND: Tom tom beating slowly, as if prophesying...

ANNOUNCER

The plow broke the plains...the rich grama grass was turned under...
the rains came...and wheat.

SOUND: Tom tom beating faster...

ANNOUNCER

Wheat...the buffalo grass turned under...for wheat.

SOUND: Tom tom beating faster...

ANNOUNCER

Wheat!

SOUND: Wheat thresher...

CAST IN UNISON

Wheat! More wheat! More wheat!

SOUND: Wheat thresher...

CAST IN UNISON

Wheat...wheat...wheat!

SOUND: Railroad engine...

VOICE (SHOUTING BEHIND SOUND)

We are now passing through T. C. Henry's wheatfield -- biggest in
America!

ORGAN: ABRUPT DISCORD AND OUT.

(PAUSE)

PROUTY (on cue)

...and I heard one fellow say, "Well I snum, I never seen so much
wheat in all my born days."

PRICE (LAUGHING)

There's a lot of it, Prouty. Eleven miles on a stretch. I've had
hundreds of letters about it.

PROUTY

And one woman spoke up and said, "What a magnificent golden belt"! She was right pretty, too. You'd better watch out, friend Price, or she'll be after you.

PRICE

I won't worry about that. I'm happy enough.

SNUFFY (fading in)

Boss, I wanted to...oh, hello Mr. Prouty.

PROUTY

Hello, Snuffy.

PRICE

What did you start to say?

SNUFFY

I was going to say that Joe Gleep was by to see you this morning.

PRICE

Joe Gleep? I don't know any Joe Gleep. Do you, Prouty?

PROUTY

Oh, he's that big fellow from Abilene.

SNUFFY

Big? Big and hungry. And how he loves to eat. He was out with the chuck wagon gang last year.

PRICE

Oh, yes, I remember.

SNUFFY

I sure remember him. He liked watermelons most of all, only he grumbled because they were so small they weren't worth peeling. He just ate 'em like peaches. Oh, and that mule of his -- it took a barn swallow two hours to fly from one ear to the other.

PRICE

I think you'd better sit down and rest, Snuffy. (TO PROUTY) And you don't think that wheat will do so good out here, Prouty.

PROUTY

It will, for awhile, but what will you do when you have a dry spell? The wind can blow this land right out from under you.

PRICE

There's plenty of land.

PROUTY

I wonder.

SNUFFY

That's what I been telling him, Mr. Prouty.

PRICE (JOKING)

Snuffy, here, is an authority on farming.

SNUFFY

I ought to be. I used to work for Lem Blanchard. You know, one time he scaled a young stalk of corn to look over his cornfield. It was so tall he could see into the next county. When he tried to come down, the stalk grew faster than he could slide.

PRICE

What happened?

SNUFFY

Well, he kept from starving to death by eating the raw ears of corn. When that cornstalk stopped growing, he got down and found forty bushels of corn cobs below his perch.

PROUTY

That must have been a big farm.

1. The first part of the paper is devoted to a general discussion of the problem.

2. In the second part, we shall consider the case of a single particle.

3. The third part is devoted to the case of a system of particles.

4. In the fourth part, we shall consider the case of a continuous medium.

5. The fifth part is devoted to the case of a system of continuous media.

6. In the sixth part, we shall consider the case of a system of continuous media.

7. The seventh part is devoted to the case of a system of continuous media.

8. In the eighth part, we shall consider the case of a system of continuous media.

9. The ninth part is devoted to the case of a system of continuous media.

10. In the tenth part, we shall consider the case of a system of continuous media.

11. The eleventh part is devoted to the case of a system of continuous media.

12. In the twelfth part, we shall consider the case of a system of continuous media.

13. The thirteenth part is devoted to the case of a system of continuous media.

14. In the fourteenth part, we shall consider the case of a system of continuous media.

15. The fifteenth part is devoted to the case of a system of continuous media.

16. In the sixteenth part, we shall consider the case of a system of continuous media.

17. The seventeenth part is devoted to the case of a system of continuous media.

18. In the eighteenth part, we shall consider the case of a system of continuous media.

19. The nineteenth part is devoted to the case of a system of continuous media.

20. In the twentieth part, we shall consider the case of a system of continuous media.

21. The twenty-first part is devoted to the case of a system of continuous media.

22. In the twenty-second part, we shall consider the case of a system of continuous media.

23. The twenty-third part is devoted to the case of a system of continuous media.

24. In the twenty-fourth part, we shall consider the case of a system of continuous media.

25. The twenty-fifth part is devoted to the case of a system of continuous media.

SNUFFY

Big? Why, Mr. Prouty, that farm was so big that by the time the mortgage was recorded on the west side, the mortgage on the east side had come due.

SOUND: Wind beginning to blow...

PROUTY

Say...that wind is coming up.

PRICE

By George, it is. But it won't last. It's just a little duster.

PROUTY

These "little dusters" are becoming more frequent, Price. I'm getting your land -- by way of the air.

PRICE

I still say -- there's plenty of land.

PROUTY

And I still say -- I wonder. What would happen to America, suppose, if we would lose half of our land by erosion?

PRICE

Why, we would just go on...oh, but that can't happen.

PROUTY

I wonder.

SOUND: Wind increasing...

PRICE

That wind is getting worse.

PROUTY

Look at that. Come here to the window. You see, Price -- there goes your topsoil. Just a little at a time -- but if that land was still in grass, it wouldn't be blowing.

SNUFFY

Speaking of blowing, I remember one wind a few years ago. I had a hound dog that didn't know no better, and he barked at a coming twister. The twister just turned that dog inside out. It almost blew away the grasshoppers.

PROUTY

Then the grasshoppers must have been mighty big.

SNUFFY

Big? Mr. Prouty, they were big as mules. After they ate up the crops they'd pick their teeth on the barbs of the barbwire fence.

PRICE (UNEASILY)

This is no time for joking, Snuffy.

SNUFFY

No, boss.

SOUND: Wind increasing...

PRICE

That wind...

PROUTY

It's blowing your wheat out, Price.

PRICE

A crop going....

PROUTY

A land going, Price.

PRICE

My land.

PROUTY

America's land.

SOUND: Wind up to full volume, sustained, and fade out. (PAUSE)

The first of the year was a very dry one, and the crops were much injured. The weather was very hot, and the ground was very dry. The crops were much injured, and the yield was very small. The weather was very hot, and the ground was very dry. The crops were much injured, and the yield was very small.

The second of the year was a very wet one, and the crops were much injured. The weather was very cold, and the ground was very wet. The crops were much injured, and the yield was very small. The weather was very cold, and the ground was very wet. The crops were much injured, and the yield was very small.

The third of the year was a very dry one, and the crops were much injured. The weather was very hot, and the ground was very dry. The crops were much injured, and the yield was very small. The weather was very hot, and the ground was very dry. The crops were much injured, and the yield was very small.

The fourth of the year was a very wet one, and the crops were much injured. The weather was very cold, and the ground was very wet. The crops were much injured, and the yield was very small. The weather was very cold, and the ground was very wet. The crops were much injured, and the yield was very small.

The fifth of the year was a very dry one, and the crops were much injured. The weather was very hot, and the ground was very dry. The crops were much injured, and the yield was very small. The weather was very hot, and the ground was very dry. The crops were much injured, and the yield was very small.

The sixth of the year was a very wet one, and the crops were much injured. The weather was very cold, and the ground was very wet. The crops were much injured, and the yield was very small. The weather was very cold, and the ground was very wet. The crops were much injured, and the yield was very small.

The seventh of the year was a very dry one, and the crops were much injured. The weather was very hot, and the ground was very dry. The crops were much injured, and the yield was very small. The weather was very hot, and the ground was very dry. The crops were much injured, and the yield was very small.

The eighth of the year was a very wet one, and the crops were much injured. The weather was very cold, and the ground was very wet. The crops were much injured, and the yield was very small. The weather was very cold, and the ground was very wet. The crops were much injured, and the yield was very small.

ANNOUNCER

The plow broke the plains. Gone is the gramma, gone the buffalo grass, in came the wheat. As one stands in a field of tall wheat when a breeze is blowing, the bending and rising of the grain makes it seem as if one stood in the sea and watched the waves rolling forward.

ORGAN: Sneak in HOME ON THE RANGE.

ANNOUNCER

Down the Valley of the Kaw, men grow corn and oats and wheat. But in the headwaters of the Kaw, where the moisture is scanty and the soil is brittle and the wind is biting, dust storms and drouths have been cruel. What foolish man has done, wise man can correct -- for the Southern Great Plains is a land meant for grass -- the home of cattle, browsing on the range. The Kaw River flows on -- but the blight of seven years of drouth is upon it. Still, brave men in that valley are fighting a winning war to reclaim the land. Soil conservation districts have been formed. The range grass, thin through years of overgrazing and neglect, is coming back. Buffalo grass, plowed under for wheat, is coming back. Pastures that a few years ago would not support a herd of goats are coming into their own. The Southern Great Plains, scorned as a "dust bowl" only a few years ago, is regaining its place as an agricultural empire -- because men of the Kaw Valley are adopting soil conservation measures, to stop those dust storms, stop those muddy little rivulets that trickle away with each rain, carrying precious topsoil with every rivulet. Wheat is grown where land is adapted to wheat, land best suited for grass is kept in grass and land best suited for forests is kept in forests -- and America's defense of the land becomes the "Eleventh Commandment".....

ORGAN: SEQUE INTO DEEP RIVER THEME.

ANNOUNCER

"Thou shalt inherit the holy earth as a faithful steward, conserving its resources and productivity from generation to generation. Thou shalt safeguard thy fields from soil erosion, thy living waters from drying up, thy forests from desolation, and protect thy hills from overgrazing by thy herds, so that thy descendants may have abundance forever. If any shall fail in this stewardship of the land thy fruitful fields shall become sterile stony ground and wasting gullies, and thy descendants shall decrease and live in poverty or be destroyed from off the face of the earth."

ORGAN: UP AND OUT.

ANNOUNCER

Portions of this broadcast were adapted from Floyd Benjamin Streeter's book, "The Kaw", published by Farrar and Rinehart, in the Rivers of America series.

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